

Using a microphone with a smartphone

We have several types of microphones in the Tech Center. Two that you'll likely use are:

Shotgun microphone

This microphone is ideal for picking up your subject's voice from across a room.



Lavalier microphone

This microphone is used to pick up your subject's voice from close range. Typically, a lavalier microphone is clipped to a collar or shirt.



Connecting a microphone to your smartphone

Microphones can be very fussy, and there's a lot that can go wrong. It's essential that you test your microphone before you go out to do your shoot. I strongly recommend testing everything while you're in the Tech Center, so that way you can swap out a different microphone if you're having trouble.

Connect all your cables and adapters.

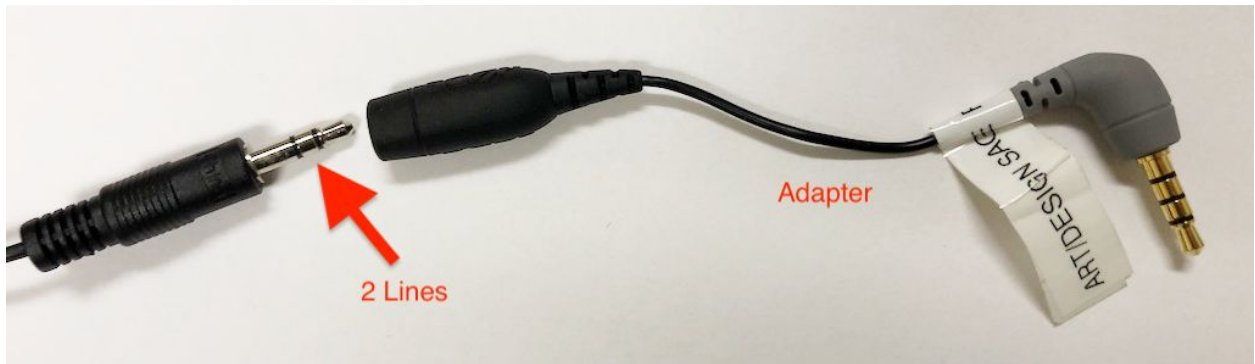
1. First, check to see if you're going to need a TRRS adapter.

Take a look at the plug at the end of the microphone.

If it has 3 black lines, you're good. Skip to step 2.



If it only has 2 black lines, you're going to need an adapter to convert it to 3 lines.



2. If you're using an iPhone, you will probably also need to add a microphone/lightning port adapter.



Check the microphone and do a sample recording

In order to make sure your connections are good and the battery is working, always do a test recording. To do that, follow these steps. *The order is very important!*

1. If you're using an iPhone, open the Voice Memos app. (Or the equivalent on Android)
2. Turn on the microphone. It should have an on/off switch on the side. (If it has a setting that says "Camera", switch it to that.)
3. Plug in the microphone to your phone.
4. Make a test recording. If everything is working, you should see a waveform appear whenever you speak into the microphone, or touch it gently with your finger.



If you don't see a waveform, it's either:

- a. A bad connection. Try unplugging the microphone and plugging it in again. Make sure everything is on before you plug it in, and that you have a proper adapters. (See above.)
- b. A bad battery. Ask the Tech Center for a different microphone and try the above steps again. (If the battery was bad, please let the Tech Center know so they can replace it.)

WHEN YOU ARE FINISHED RECORDING, BE SURE TO TURN YOUR MICROPHONE OFF!